KCC 4782 (K-C 17,029)
PATENT

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Listing of Claims:

1-4. (Cancelled)

5. (Currently Amended) A process ~~as set forth in claim 1~~ for manufacturing a cellulosic paper product, the process comprising:

forming an aqueous suspension of papermaking fibers;

introducing sodium bicarbonate into said aqueous suspension ~~wherein said sodium bicarbonate is introduced into said aqueous suspension~~ in an amount from about 10 to about 15% by weight of papermaking fiber present in said aqueous suspension;

depositing said aqueous suspension onto a sheet-forming fabric to form a wet web; and

through-drying said wet web by passing heated air through said wet web, wherein the temperature of said heated air is at least about 190°C.

6. (Original) A process as set forth in claim 5 wherein said sodium bicarbonate is introduced into said aqueous suspension in an amount from about 12 to about 13% by weight of papermaking fiber present in said aqueous suspension.

7-14. (Canceled).

15. (Currently Amended) A process ~~as set forth in claim 12~~ for making a cellulosic paper product, the process comprising:

forming an aqueous suspension of papermaking fibers;

introducing sodium bicarbonate into said aqueous suspension ~~wherein said sodium bicarbonate is introduced into said aqueous suspension~~ in an amount from about 10 to about 15% by weight of papermaking fiber present in said aqueous suspension;

depositing said aqueous suspension onto a sheet-forming fabric to form a wet web, said sodium bicarbonate being introduced into said aqueous suspension prior to depositing said aqueous suspension onto said sheet-forming fabric; and

through-drying said wet web by passing heated air through said wet web, wherein the temperature of said heated air is at least about 190°C.

16. (Original) A process as set forth in claim 15 wherein said sodium bicarbonate is introduced into said aqueous suspension in an amount from about 12 to about 13% by weight of papermaking fiber present in said aqueous suspension.

17-25. (Canceled).

26. (Previously Presented) A process for manufacturing a cellulosic paper product, the process comprising:

forming an aqueous suspension of papermaking fibers;

introducing sodium bicarbonate into said aqueous suspension in an amount from about 10 to about 15% by weight of papermaking fiber present in said aqueous suspension;

depositing said aqueous suspension onto a sheet-forming fabric to form a wet web; and

through-drying said wet web by passing heated air through said wet web.

27. (Previously Presented) A process as set forth in claim 26 wherein said aqueous suspension has a pH of from about 7.5 to about 8.5 after said sodium bicarbonate is introduced into said suspension.

28. (Previously Presented) A process as set forth in claim 27 wherein said aqueous suspension has a pH of about 8.0 after said sodium bicarbonate is introduced into said suspension.

29. (Previously Presented) A process as set forth in claim 26 wherein said sodium bicarbonate is introduced into said aqueous suspension in an amount from about 12 to about 13% by weight of papermaking fiber present in said aqueous suspension.

30. (Previously Presented) A process as set forth in claim 26 wherein the temperature of said heated air is at least about 190°C.

31. (Previously Presented) A process as set forth in claim 30 wherein the temperature of said heated air is from about 190° to about 210°C.

32. (Previously Presented) A process as set forth in claim 31 wherein the temperature of said heated air is from about 200° to about 205°C.

33. (Previously Presented) A process as set forth in claim 26 wherein said papermaking fibers predominantly comprise secondary cellulosic fibers.

34. (Previously Presented) A process for making a cellulosic paper product, the process comprising:

forming an aqueous suspension of papermaking fibers;

introducing sodium bicarbonate into said aqueous suspension in an amount from about 10 to about 15% by weight of papermaking fiber present in said aqueous suspension;

depositing said aqueous suspension onto a sheet-forming fabric to form a wet web, said sodium bicarbonate being introduced into said aqueous suspension prior to depositing said aqueous suspension onto said sheet-forming fabric; and

through-drying said wet web by passing heated air through said wet web.

35. (Previously Presented) A process as set forth in claim 34 wherein said aqueous suspension has a pH of from about 7.5 to about 8.5 after said sodium bicarbonate is introduced into said suspension.

36. (Previously Presented) A process as set forth in claim 35 wherein said aqueous suspension has a pH of about 8.0 after said sodium bicarbonate is introduced into said suspension.

37. (Previously Presented) A process as set forth in claim 34 wherein said sodium bicarbonate is introduced into said

aqueous suspension in an amount from about 12 to about 13% by weight of papermaking fiber present in said aqueous suspension.

38. (Previously Presented) A process as set forth in claim 34 wherein the temperature of said heated air is at least about 190°C.

39. (Previously Presented) A process as set forth in claim 38 wherein the temperature of said heated air is from about 190° to about 210°C.

40. (Previously Presented) A process as set forth in claim 39 wherein the temperature of said heated air is from about 200° to about 205°C.

41. (Previously Presented) A process as set forth in claim 34 wherein said papermaking fibers predominantly comprise secondary cellulosic fibers.